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**YUBA CITY MAN CHARGED IN SCHEME TO FRAUDULENTLY OBTAIN
COMPUTER SERVICES AND PRODUCTS**

United States Attorney John K. Vincent announced today that a Federal Grand Jury in Sacramento returned an indictment charging BRANNON LEO MARLIN, 26, of Yuba City, California, with nine counts of mail fraud, five counts of wire fraud, and two counts of money laundering.

The indictment charges that between the period of July of 1997 through May of 2001, MARLIN obtained computer services and products worth over \$1.3 million dollars by submitting fraudulent credit applications and making other false representations, which enabled him to make these purchases "on credit." According to the indictment, Marlin falsely represented that he owned a company with 250 employees and a 5,000 square foot facility, when in reality he operated out of his parents' Yuba City residence. The indictment further charges that MARLIN re-sold a significant volume of these fraudulently obtained computers at a discount to third parties, keeping the proceeds for himself. Similarly, MARLIN was able to defraud a telecommunications services provider out of approximately \$800,000 worth of internet service.

If convicted, MARLIN faces a maximum sentence of five years in prison and up to a \$250,000 fine for each count of mail and wire fraud . In addition, for each count of money

laundering charged, MARLIN faces a maximum sentence of ten years in prison and a fine of up to twice the amount of money he wrongfully obtained.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney James P. Arguelles and was investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Detective Division of the Yuba City Police Department, and the Brea Police Department.

The charges in the indictment are only allegations and the defendant is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt.

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